Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to clause (*d*) I find that, with effect from the next school year, this difference will be abolished. Well, Sir, may I know whether, until then—until that happy day comes—we ought to leave the school for want of encouragement ? What are we to do ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I cannot give any opinion. It is left to the hon. Member."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With regard to clause (*b*) it is stated that scholarships tenable from standards IV and V are being awarded by the Labour Department to pupils belonging to depressed classes. May I know why the Government should impose such restrictions ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" It is a matter of administrative necessity, Sir."

Prayers of the deputations of the committees of the Catholic Association of South Kanara.

* 1491 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state what orders have been passed or are contemplated to be passed on the several prayers of the deputations of the committees of the Catholic Association of South Kanara and of the Kanara Indian Christian Civic League, presented to the hon. the Minister during his visit to Mangalore last year, so far as the Educational Department is concerned, as to (i) recognition of the Catholic Indian Secular clergy and pastors as secondary trained teachers, (ii) larger grants-in-aid, (iii) fixed dates for publication of results of examinations and (iv) due representation of Christians in the District Educational Council ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1445.

Excise.

Consumption of opium in Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Kistna districts.

* 1492 *Q.*—Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATIRAJU : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the quantity of opium consumed in each year by the people of each taluk in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavari and Kistna for the last ten years ?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Co-operative Societies.

Work done by Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies.

* 1493 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the newly appointed Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies are now doing only the same work which they were doing as Assistant Registrars or whether any non-credit work has been actually attempted by them ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that some of them are attending meetings of co-operative societies throughout the month to the neglect of more important duties ; and

2nd March 1926]

(c) whether he will be pleased to furnish a statement of the work turned out by the Deputy Registrars for the quarter ending 31st December 1925, the number of societies inspected by them, the number of days spent by them in attending meetings of co-operative societies, the number of days spent by them in 'super-audit,' the number of 'non-credit' societies started by them and the amount of travelling allowances drawn by them during the period?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the reply given to clause (a) of his question No. 1379 asked at the meeting of the Council on 12th February 1926.

(b) No. It is part of the duties of Deputy Registrars to attend meetings of co-operative societies.

(c) The Government have no information.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"With reference to clause (c), the answer is that the Government have no information. May I know, Sir, whether the Government have no information because no work is done by the Deputy Registrars?"

The hon Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"It is not so."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Then, how is it that the Government have no information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"It is not worth while collecting that piece of information."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Arising out of that answer, may I know whether the hon. Minister does not consider the question of super audit important? Are we to take it, Sir, that in a matter where the public have invested their hard-earned savings to the extent of nine or ten crores the hon. Minister considers the question of audit unimportant?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—'If the hon. Member will ask any particular question, I will collect the information."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"The question is so clear that even he who runs may read and understand. My information is that the Deputy Registrars are doing no super audit work and I want Government to tell me whether it is true. It is very important because ten crores of rupees of peoples' deposits are there. The hon. Minister says that he does not consider it important to call for the information. Does he now at least realize that a matter affecting ten crores of poor people's savings is important and will he call for the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"I shall call for the super audit figures if the hon. Member wants them"

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"In the interests of the public, Sir, not that I want them."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Yes, yes."

Mr R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Does not the Deputy Registrar send any monthly report?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"He does."

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar :—" Will not that give some idea of the information now wanted ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai :—" No."

Appointment of a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

* 1494 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Personal Assistant to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies was on special duty and if so, how long and what are the items of work disposed of by him during the period of his ' special duty ' ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that he has been since granted leave ;

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to appoint a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies ;

(*d*) if so, what are the circumstances necessitating such an appointment ; and

(*e*) the reasons why the matter could not be deferred until the time of 1926–27 budget ?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The Personal Assistant was on special duty for six months. As regards the work on which he was employed during that period the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*f*) to question 573 asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 29th October 1925. The Government have not yet received a report on the work done during the period.

(*b*) Yes. But he has since returned to duty.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The appointment of Joint Registrar is proposed with a view to affording relief to the Registrar. The department has expanded enormously during the last five years and the work of the Registrar has increased both in volume and complexity. It is a physical impossibility for the Registrar, without substantial relief, to find time to deal adequately with the numerous complicated problems which are constantly coming before him, to indicate and control new lines of development and to tour throughout the Presidency in order to keep in touch with the work of his subordinates, of the financing banks and of the more important special type of societies. More money is coming into the movement than it has been able to absorb and is mostly in the shape of short-term loans while the demand now is for long-term loans. The regulation of the financial arrangements of the movement as a whole requires the constant attention of the Registrar in order to ensure the safety and soundness of the system. He has to control and co-ordinate the work of the Deputy Registrars in regard to non-credit work. Moreover, there are and always will be many problems connected with non-credit activities which have to be settled on lines applicable to the Presidency as a whole and not